

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00072 111156Z

20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAM-01 IO-10 SR-02 ORM-01 ACDA-05 /077 W

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O P 111037Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9089

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0072

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BU, GR

SUBJECT: CONCLUSION BITSIOS VISIT: COMMENTS BY GREEK AMBASSADOR

REF: SOFIA 0071

1. IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR HERZ JANUARY 11, GREEK AMBASSADOR TO BULGARIA STEPHANOU COMMENTED THAT TALKS WENT WELL BECAUSE "ESSENTIALLY THERE ARE NO POLITICAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THE BULGARIANS KNOW WE BELONG TO THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY AND DID NOT ATTEMPT TO PLACE US IN A DELICATE POSITION." COMMUNIQUE, STEPHANOU SAID, HAD TO BE READ IN TERMS OF ITEMS BULGARIANS WANTED BUT DID NOT GET: (A) LANGUAGE ON VLADIVOSTOK, WHERE BITSIOS PLEADED IGNORANCE BECAUSE "THE US HAD NOT FULLY BRIEFED GREECE ON SUBJECT" (B) HORTATORY LANGUAGE ON MBFR; (C) "MARXIST JARGON ON IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM; (D) SOVIET
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PAGE 02 SOFIA 00072 111156Z

BOILERPLATE ON CSCE THIRD STAGE. IN LATTER RESPECT, STEPHANOU

SAID, BULGARIANS WANTED LANGUAGE ON MEETING AT HIGHEST LEVEL AT SOONEST POSSIBLE TIME WHEREAS COMMUNIQUE SPEAKS ONLY OF MEETING "AT A HIGH LEVEL" AND "IN THE BEST TIME" (DANS LES MEILLEURS DELAIS). (THIS DIFFERS FROM VERSION APPEARING IN BULGARIAN PRESS WHICH ADVOCATES MEETING AT "SOONEST TIME".)

2. STEPHANOU EXPLAINED COMMUNIQUE PASSAGE ON CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES WAS RESULT OF BULGARIAN URGINGS; ORIGINALLY THEY HAD WANTED IT ATTACHED TO PARAGRAPH ABOUT CYPRUS BUT GREEK SIDE PREFERRED IT TO BE MORE GENERAL.

3. STEPHANOU SAID BACKGROUND BRIEFING AMBASSADOR HAD GIVEN HIM ON WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE (TO EFFECT WHILE NOT OPPOSING IT; US SEES IT AS PROPAGANDA FORUM DETRACTING FROM MORE SERIOUS WORK ON DISARMAMENT) HAD BEEN MOST USEFUL IN PARRY BULGARIAN SUGGESTIONS FOR LANGUAGE ON WDC.

4. STEPHANOU SAID BITSIOS HAD TOLD HIM FULL BRIEFING ON VISIT WOULD BE GIVEN TO NATO NEXT WEEK. ALSO ACCORDING TO STEPHANOU, BITSIOS WAS CAREFUL TO PHRASE COMMUNIQUE IN SUCH WAY AS NOT TO JEOPARDIZE PROSPECTS FOR RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH TURKS. BULGARIANS ON THEIR PART (WHO ALSO HAVE THEIR RELATIONS WITH TURKEY TO THINK ABOUT) DID NOT PRESS THEM IN THAT RESPECT.
HERZ

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